

Appl. No. 10/785,277
Atty. Docket No. CM2601MC2
Amld. dated April 13, 2006
Reply to Office Action of March 23, 2006
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An absorbent member having a thickness dimension, a first surface and an opposed second surface, said second surface being separated from said first surface by said thickness dimension, said absorbent member being substantially hydrophilic and comprising at least one region located on said absorbent member with particles of a substantially water-soluble chitosan salt having a particle size distribution with a mean diameter $D(v,0.9)$ of not more than about 300 μm , wherein at least 3 grams of said chitosan material is soluble in 100 grams of water at 25°C and one atmosphere.
2. (Original) The absorbent member of claim 1, wherein said region is positioned on said first and/or second surface of said absorbent member.
3. (Previously Presented) The absorbent member of claim 1, wherein said particles have a particle size distribution with a mean diameter $D(v,0.9)$ of from about 10 nm to about 300 μm .
4. (Original) The absorbent member of claim 3, wherein said particles have a particle size distribution with a mean diameter $D(v,0.9)$ of from about 10 to about 800 nm.
5. (Original) The absorbent member of claim 1, wherein said chitosan salt has a degree of deacetylation of more than about 70%.

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6. (Original) The absorbent member claim 1, wherein said chitosan salt is chitosonium pyrrolidone carboxylate and/or chitosonium lactate.
7. (Original) The absorbent member of claim 1, wherein said absorbent member comprises a dry laid hydrophilic fibrous web.
8. (Original) The absorbent member of claim 1, wherein said region comprises said particles in an amount of from about 0.1 to about 200 g per square meter.
9. (Original) The absorbent member of claim 2, wherein at least about 40% of at least one surface of said absorbent member is covered by said regions with particles of chitosan material.
10. (Original) The absorbent member of claim 9, wherein about 100% of at least one surface of said absorbent member is covered by said regions with particles of chitosan material.

11-28. (Canceled)